

STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GROUND WATER

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Lazarus Government Center
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1049

Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Fountain Square
Columbus, Ohio 43224-1387

Ohio Department of Health
246 North High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0588

Ohio Department of Commerce-SFM
8895 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

Ohio Public Utilities Commission
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0573

Ohio Department of Agriculture
8995 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-3399

Ohio Department of Development
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43266-0413

Ohio Department of Transportation
1980 West Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

TO PROMOTE AND GUIDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COORDINATED, COMPREHENSIVE AND EFFECTIVE GROUND WATER PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE STATE OF OHIO

September 19, 2002

Horace R. Collins Conference Room

Ohio Department of Natural Resources Repository Building

3307 South Old State Road

Delaware, Ohio

ABSTRACT

The September 2002 meeting included Agency updates and announcements and a presentation by Mike Ekberg, Miami Conservatory District.

ATTENDANCE

ODA: Larry Berger
ODNR: Mike Hallfrisch, Ted Lozier, Rick Pavey
OEPA: Tom Allen, Bob Knipmeyer, Gail Hesse, Amy Klei
PUCO: Sue Daly
USGS: Jeff DeRoche
ODOT: Rob Lang
MCD: Mike Ekberg

AUGUST MEETING SUMMARY

Sue Daly noted that the PUCO update did not make it into the August summary. [The final notes have been revised to include this update.]

AGENCY UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Geological Survey, Rick Pavey announced:

- ODNR has completed its most recent 319 project, including 3-D mapping of the Mad River and Little Darby Watersheds.

-The new Bedrock Geology state map will go to the printer by the end of the year. Future projects include completing the Bellfontaine quad 1:100,000 and also putting together a proposal to finish the Springfield 1:100,000 map which would complete all quads in the Columbus area.

Ohio EPA, Director's Office, Bob Knipmeyer announced:

-West Nile Virus: Most Ohio counties will honor citizen's 'do not spray' requests. The virus has been confirmed in 87 of Ohio's 88 counties. Fayette County has no confirmed cases, but has not submitted any samples. ODH and ODA are not accepting any additional samples. They have a good handle on where the virus has spread and has identified Ohio's large urban areas (Cleveland, Cincinnati, Columbus, etc.) as 'hot spots'. Illinois has the greatest number of human infections (400+) and also reported the first positive canine detection.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water, Mike Hallfrisch announced:

- Next week ODNR will be measuring 85 water levels in wells in Prairie Township, Franklin County. The testing is part of a project to study the long-term effects of residential water withdrawal. The study will look at different lot sizes and home densities. They are looking for residential areas with the following criteria: 50+ homes, lot sizes of one acre or less, and developments which are at least 10 years old. Contact Jim Raab to suggest residential areas for the study.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water, Ted Lozier announced:

- The National Wildlife Federation contacted ODNR requesting information on large water withdrawals or diversions (ground and surface water) within the Great Lakes region. Their interest appears related to the impact of large dairy farms on water resources.

- Drought Assessment Committee will meet next Thursday (9-26-02) 9:00am at OEMA.

- Annual Fractured Till Conference will be held on 9-27-02 at the Wooster Agricultural Technical Institute. This field day is one in a series of till conferences held at locations around the state.

- ODNR will be using leftover UIC funds (originally allocated for Class I injection well permit reviews) to complete the well log location project within counties with Class I wells (Allen, Butler, Lake, and Sandusky Counties).

Ohio Department of Transportation, Rob Lang announced:

- Will be releasing Draft EIS for Butler County project (Route 63). Report evaluates impact to sole source aquifer and a wildlife area.

United States Geological Survey, Water Resources Discipline, Jeff DeRoche, announced:

-Last week USGS met with ODH to discuss USGS's assistance with ODH's 319 project (awarded in '99). This statewide project will investigate ground water quality impacts from a variety of septic systems. USGS is currently putting the proposal together, which includes the following components: utilization of nitrogen isotopes to distinguish between agricultural and failing septic systems nitrogen sources; and fingerprinting *E. coli* to distinguish between human and animal sources.

Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, Gail Hesse announced:

- Ohio EPA is in the process of issuing three NPDES general storm water permits (renewals). Public meeting/hearings were held this week (Sept. 10 and 12) at the Riffe Center and one more is scheduled for the week of September 23. The permits need to be implemented by March 2003. The general permits cover the following:

- Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity,
- Discharges of Storm Water from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems, and
- Discharges of Storm Water from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems Located With Rapidly Developing Watersheds.

- 2002 work plan agreements have been mailed out.

- The comment period for the new integrated report (combining 305b with TMDL) is about to close. Comments are due to USEPA by October 2002. Trinkka Mount is the division's contact for the integrated report [trinka.mount@epa.state.of.us]. Changes from 305b format include reporting by HUC units(11 digit) instead of by stream segment. Will report by watershed condition (i.e. X% attainment). Web site changes will include grouping assessments by 29 major watershed basins with an information page for each and links for each of the 330 11-digit HUC hydrologic units (miles assessed, % attainment, etc.). These web pages will replace "Explore Your Watershed".

- Ohio Water Resources Council Advisory and Technical Support group sent a letter of support to ODNR Director Speck applauding the efforts of the Governor and Legislature to permanently create the Ohio Water Resources Council in July 2001. The letter also "encourages the Governor and Legislature to use the recently released Four-Year Strategic Plan as a guiding document to establish funding priorities for the upcoming budget cycles." Finally, the letter asks the legislature for continued support of the Ohio Water Resources Council during upcoming budget decisions and was signed by Larry Antosch, Chair of the Council Advisory Group.

Ohio Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Registration Section, Larry Berger announced:

- Well sampling at Grade A Dairy farms for the Pesticide Management Program is complete. All 100 samples were analyzed for a suite of 40 compounds. There were no detects.
- The livestock program is up and running with August 19, 2001 as the official transfer date from Ohio EPA. OEPA retains authority over the NPDES portion and also will continue investigation efforts with problem sites.
- Dursban 10CR (larvaecide pellets) will be made available to counties for mosquito control.
- Perry County Spill Incident: In early May 2002 a private applicator spilled approximately 160-180 gallons of herbicide (nirtogen/herbicide mix with Harness and atrazine) on a hillside, which then flowed over two residential yards. The spill was reported to the local health department and then to ODH. Private applicators are not required to report spills to ODA. Five or 6 wells were sampled and one well tested positive for atrazine and simazine. Follow-up sampling indicated low levels of acetochlor. ODA is undecided if they will initiate enforcement action.

Ohio EPA, Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, Tom Allen announced:

- Reminder note: The fall Water Management Association of Ohio (WMAO) conference will be held October 23-24 at the Ramada Inn on Sinclair Road. The conference theme is "The Three-Dimensional Watershed". The ten planned sessions will focus on ground water/surface water interactions. Ohio EPA will probably put together a display similar to the one at last year's conference.
- DDAGW is in the process of updating the ground water portions of the 305b Report with 2002 information. ODNR, USGA, ODA, ODH and BUSTR need to look at their data and provide updates. Tom passed out copies of the table.

Ohio Water Resource Council Goals and Strategies

The template was provided and an electronic version will be emailed shortly. The SCCGW needs to complete the template by the October 17th SCCGW meeting, so that prioritized items can be addressed in OWRC's identification of priorities beyond the next biennium budget, and during the November preparation of the SFY '04-'05 state budget. Sections M and N are especially critical. Agencies should email comments and information to Mike Eggert (michael.eggert@epa.state.oh.us).

Presentation: Mike Ekberg, Miami Conservancy District

Mike provided an overview of the Miami Conservancy District, including history, goals, organization, and monitoring programs. The district's website is www.miamiconservancy.org. Mike is the Ground Water Program Manager at MCD and can be reached at (937)223-1278 (mekberg@conservancy.com).

MCD Organization

- **Field Operations & Maintenance:** Levee and dam maintenance, monitoring EAP and fleet management.
- **Water Resource Monitoring and Analysis:** Groundwater and surface water monitoring, bio assessments, data analysis and high water events.
- **Watershed Initiatives:** Stormwater management, Phase II, watershed coordination, education and information, land conservation.
- **Rivers and Stream:** FEMA maps, flood protection, stream banks and wetlands, flood plains, land conservation, and surveying.
- **Project Management:** dam safety, recreation trails, flood plan zoning, engineering analysis, board of consultants, EAP.
- **Recreational Trails:** Trail development, maintenance, signage, kiosks, mapping and land management.

October 17, 2002 SCCGW Meeting

The meeting will be held at the ODNR Repository Building, Horace R. Collins Conference Room in Delaware, Ohio from 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. The meeting will consist of agency updates and announcements and a presentation organized by Jeff DeRoche.

